

Notice of Proposed Action

by the

State of Nevada

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for a Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Sterling Mine Project**, a beneficiation facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for **Permit NEV 89016** is:

**Sterling Gold Mining Corporation**  
**P.O. Box 549**  
**Beatty, Nevada 89003**

The Sterling Mine Project is located in Nye County, Sections 10-15, 22, and 23 of Township 13 South, Range 47 ½ East and Section 20 of Township 13 South, Range 48 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian (MDB&M), southeast of Beatty, Nevada. The existing project consists of open-pit and underground mining with ore processing by conventional heap leach cyanidation and precious metal recovery by carbon adsorption and stripping. Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

The Administrator is constrained to issue a water pollution control permit or provide written notice to the applicant why the final permit will not be issued. The Administrator has made the tentative determination to issue a permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following publication of this notice (**February 3, 2003**) to the:

Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation  
Capitol Complex  
333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Bob Carlson at (775) 687-9401, toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>